ALL IN A NUTSHELL

HOW THE PRICE OF WHEAT HAS NOT BEEN AFFECTED BY SILVER.

Complete Statement of the Fluctuations Noted in This Country During Twenty-Eight Years.

GRAIN BRINGS IN THE GOLD

SOLD FOR \$3,193,823,495.

Comparative Tables Clearly Indicate How Independent of Each Other Are Silver and Wheat.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18 .- Mr. John Hyde, of the United States Department of Agriculture, late special agent of the eleventh census in charge of the statistics of agriculture, has issued the following very valuable facts on silver and wheat. His paper says: In the twenty-eight years ending June 30, 1895, the United States exported more than two billions (2,065,224,154) of bushels of wheat and 219,062,112 barrels of flour, all of it of domestic production and equivalent in the aggregate to more than three billions (3,067,027,903)) of bushels of wheat. For these enormous exports it received over three billions (3,193,823,495) of dollars in gold or its equivalent, the average export price for the entire period being \$1.041 per bushel in gold.

The expression "in gold" is used because from the beginning of the period under consideration down to the end of 1878 the prices of all commodities were expressed in currency that was continually fluctuating in value. While not nearly so low as during the critical stages of the war, the currency dollar was still worth only from 69.7 cents to 74.3 cents in 1867, from 82.4 cents to 90.3 cents in 1870, and so on until, at the end of 1878, the approaching resumption of spe- of wheat. That both have declined is true cie payments raised it-to par. During the first few years of the period under consideration \$3 in currency was worth very little more than \$2 of the money of the other civilized nations of the world to whom we were disposing of our immense surplus stocks and from whom we were purchasing | two commodities during the first five years such commodities as we ourselves were in need of. Before, therefore, the prices of American products at any time from 1862 to 1878 can be compared with the prices of similar articles in other countries other times, they have to be reduced to their value in the money of commerce.

As the principal bread plant of all civilized nations, wheat is a product the price July 1, 1882, to June 30, 1887... of which is peculiarly sensitive to temporary influences. For that reason it can be sidered most advantageously and most fairly in periods of five years, a period sufficiently long to reduce minor oscillations to their true relative importance and yet not too long to show the effect of any leally significant movement.
Dividing the period under consideration (1867 to 1895) into five terms of five years each, and one term, the last, of three years,

we get the following result: Exports wheat Value Av price Period. and flour bu. in gold. per bu. July 1, 1867, to June 30, 1872, 201,516,861 July 1, 1872, to June 30, 1877, 348,338,561 July 1, 1877, to July 1, 1871, to June 30, 1882, 726,373,692 July 1, 1882, to June 30, 1887, 640,286,6271/2 July 1, 1887, to 657,321,840 1.026

643,167,711 ,9902

June 30, 1892, 649,503,6801/2 July 1, 1892, to June 30, 1895. 501,008,481 393,165,719 .7847 Totals3,067,027,903 \$3,193,823,495 ... The most noteworthy feature of the foregoing table, next to its stupendous aggregates, is the fact that it was not during five years immediately preceding 1873, but from 1877 to 1882 that we received the highest average price per bushel, \$1.1934. During that period our exports were larger than at any other time in the twenty-eight years under consideration. Our wheat was not brought into the same active competi-

tion with the wheat of other countries that it has since had to encounter. It was in great demand, and, in obedience to a law as inexorable as the law of gravitation, its price rose to even a higher average than prevailed from 1867 to 1872. A POPULAR ERROR.

But it is not true that during this lastmentioned period, 1867 to 1872, wheat rose to an exceedingly high price. Was it not the case that throughout almost the entire first half of 1868 No. 1 spring wheat was worth in Chicago from \$1.93 to \$2.15 per bushel, and No. 2 from \$1.50 to \$2.10\(\frac{1}{2}\), currency prices? This is true, and it is a fact which the wheat grower is not in the least danger of forgetting. But he does not so readily remember, nor is he so frequently reminded, that before the end of the following year (1869) No. 1 spring wheat was worth in the same market only from 83 cents to 88 cents and No. 2 from 76% cents to 80 cents per bushel, currency prices, equivalent only to from 63 cents to 72% cents per bushel in gold, and this when silver was worth \$1.325 per ounce, or 15.6 to 1. This period of low prices lasted about eight months, and was brought to an end not by any change in the value of silver, nor by any legislation affecting the currency, but simply by the breaking out of the war between France and Germany, which paralyzed the agricultural operations of two of the greatest nations of the world and aided slightly by deficient harvests in one or two other countries, speedily sent up the frice of wheat in Liverpool thirty cents a bushel. In the United States wheat tegan to rise the moment war was seen to be inevitable, and within sixty days it had advanced 20 cents per bushel and flour \$1.25 per barrel. The net result of these various oscillations in values was that rather less than \$1.17 per bashel constituted the average export price of wheat in the inited States during the five years ending

The second period of five fiscal years extends from July 1, 1872, to June 30, 1877. This is one of the periods that witnessed an extraordinary impulse to wheat growing in the United States. The acreage devoted to wheat in this country in 1876 was nearly 7.000,000 acres (or more than one-third) greater than in 1872, and the crop of 1877 was 114,000,000 bushels (or nearly one-half) greater than the crop of 18/2. The annual requirements of our own population had not increased in the meantime to the ex-tent of more than 25,000,000 bushels, and not been for the astonishing capacity of foreign nations to absorb our surplus production, a big drop in prices would inevitably have occurred. As it was, however, the average export price for the en-tire period showed a falling off of less than three cents per bushel, as compared with the preceding five years

The period from July, 1877, to June, 1882, has already been referred to. The average orice of wheat during these five years was 5.2 cents per bushel higher than the average of the preceding five years, and even higher by 2.38 cents per bushel than dur-ing the period from 1867 to 1872, which pre-ceded the so-called demonetization of sil-ver. The reason is to be found in a serious failure of crops in western Europe. The years 1879-'81 yielded in the United Kingdom the smallest crops of any three years since 1852, and it was regarded as a matter of great satisfaction in that country that an abundant surplus in the United States prevented the prices of wheat and flour rom rising any higher than they did. It s worthy of note that in 1867-'68 the fall ure of the crops in Great Britain, which the United States was not able to make good out of its own surplus, caused an advance in the price of no less than 42 cents per bushel. The still more complete crop failure of 1879-'81, however, was at once The still more complete crop made good by enormous importations (the largest on record, even down to the present time) from the United States, and the price of wheat in the United Kindom rose only 4% cents per bushel. These are facts that cannot be disputed, and they have a tremendous significance in showing how prices are made

This brings us to the beginning of an era that, no withstanding certain marked oscillations, may be described as one of

for the crops of the five years 1887-'91, taken collectively, the farmer received nearly 2 cents per bushel more than for the crops of the years 1882-'86. The general tendency, however, was clearly down-

LESSON FROM EXPORTS.

On examining in detail the statistics for this period we find that the exports of wheat in 1882 and 1883 averaged 50,000,000 of the period we are now considering being thus marked by an enormous falling off in the demands of foreign countries for our wheat. The American farmer had, however, become so thoroughly imbued with the idea that the capacity of foreign nations to absorb our surplus production was pracreasing quantities, the production from 1882 to 1886 being more than 137,000,000 bushels greater than in the preceding five years and that from 1887 to 1891 greater again by 1886. Had production stood still in other countries its incerase in the United States would not, of itself, have brought down prices; but at the same time that it was increasing rapidly in the Dakotas, Minnesota Cansas, California and elsewhere, Russia, India and Argentina were all adding largely to the wheat supply of the world. Russia's exports of 371,250,000 bushels from 1882 to 1886 increased to 527,210,000 bushels during the next five years. This increase has continued with a brief intermission down to the present time, and the exports from Russia last year amounted to no less than 145,996,000 bushels. Prior to 1881 the wheat exports of British India were totally insigbut from 1882 to 1891 that country sent to the markets of the world the large aggregate of 327,394,024 bushels. Equally remarkable has been the increase in the ex-ports of wheat from Argentina. From 1882 to 1886, inclusive, they amounted to only 11,662,221 bushels, but in the succeeding five years they increased to 44,290,506 bushels while in the four years last past (1892 to 1895) they have reached a total of no less than 158,192,933 bushels. Even Canada, that in 1884, 1889 and 1890 was an importing country, has, during the last four years, poured into the already busting granaries of the world over 40,000,000 bushels of wheat. Nor must it be supposed for a moment that all the great wheat-consuming nations of the world have materially curtailed their own production. While this has been the case in the United Kingdom, Austria-Hungary, Germany and France have, within the last half dozen years, produced some of the largest crops in their history. It is also important to note that the new supplies of wheat have been sent to the world's markets mainly from countries where the cost of production—or at least the cost of subsistence, which has the same cheapening effect upon the product-is considerably less than in the United States, This also had its effect—and a very considerable one-upon prices. In the face of such facts as the foregoing, it would surely be ridiculous to discuss seriously the con-tention that it is the fall in the price of silver that has caused the fall in the price enough, but that the noncorrespondence in their decline has been sufficient to make their relation a matter of the gravest doubt, even had we no other and satisfactory explanation of the fall in wheat. This will be best illustrated by the following

under consideration: Average Average price of price silver per (in gold)

table, in which one hundred is assumed to

represent the average price of each of the

Period. ounce.of wheat. Silver. Wheat July 1, 1872, to June 30, 1877... 1.236 1.1414 July 1, 1877, to June 30, 1882... 1.139 1.1934 .. 1.052 30, 1892... .956 July 1, 1892, to 30, 1895... .690 July 9, 1896 Oct. 9, 1896..... .649 .7825 *Comparison on basis of one hundred rep-

resenting average price during first period. It will be seen from the foregoing table that while during the first fifteen years of the period under consideration (including the years from 1873 to 1882) silver fell more than 18 cents per ounce, or 14 per cent., wheat advanced about 2½ cents per bushel, or 2 per cent., and that while during the last ninety days silver has failen 4 cents an ounce, wheat, owing to deficient harvests in other countries has advanced from vests in other countries, has advanced from 64 cents to 78 cents per bushel.

WORK OF THE U. S. SUPREME COURT Prospect that It May Soon Catch U with the Docket.

Washington Special in Chicago Post Should the present rate of decrease in the number of cases on the docket of the Supreme Court of the United States continue it is confidently believed by the officials of that American tribunal that during the October term, 1898, the court will be in a position to take up and pass upon the cases filed during the year from the January preceding. In view of the fact that but five years ago there were nearly 1,800 cases or the docket, the working power of the body as at present constituted will be appreciated. This court, whose powers and functions the Chicago platform seeks to curtail, is, according to Archbishop Ireland, the palladium of American liberties, the counterpart of which in majesty and in power to enforce absolute justice does not exist among the nations of Christendom." Barring one member, every occupant of that bench is animated with a single ideathe clearing up of the docket from year to that the off-repeated utterance that the Supreme Court is the graveyard of liti-gation may be forever put to rest. Litigants have too often felt that justice would be meted out long after their demise should appeals be taken from lower courts, and his has deterred many from insisting upon review of causes wherein there was reasonable ground to doubt the rulings of courts below. All this, however, will be changed in two years should there be no reversal in the jurisdiction of the court as

Herein, however, rests a danger. Under the Evarts law, which went into effect in 1891, creating circuit courts of appeal, revenue and patent cases were removed from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, Circult Courts of Appeal having final adjudication over these classes of cases, Importers and lawyers, together with the government, are anxious to have a uniform line of decisions on these cases, which at pres-ent is impossible, and are moving to have he Supreme Court made, as in old times, the court of last resort. Revenue and patent cases are largely heard in the courts York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans and San Francisco, but, as might be expected, udges of these courts see things differently: and, as they are final with themseives, ase involving new lines or adjudication may be interpreted from diametrically op-posite views. To remedy this there is a movement on foot to again invest the Supreme Court with power to try these cases, of on a writ of certiorari, as at present.

at present constituted.

The following table will be interesting in showing how the business of the Supreme Court is being handled: Number of cases not disposed of at Oc-Number of cases filed at October term,

Number of cases disposed of at October term, 1890 610 .1,190 Number of cases filed at October term, 1.569

Balance Number of cases disposed of at October term, 1892 419 1893 280

Detroit Free Press. It suggests lack of enterprise upon the part of free-silver papers when they algradually falling prices. The average part of free-silver papers when they algain in 1888, 1890 and 1891, were substantially higher than the average in 1878, and

THE EVENT OF WAR

SECRETARY LAMONT SHOWS CONDI-TION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

bushels less than in 1881, the very first year Increased Estimate for Fortifications and Seacoast Defenses Amounts to \$15,824,298.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.-Secretary Lamont to-morrow will transmit to the Sectically unlimited that he continued for ten | retary of the Treasury his estimates of apyears longer to raise wheat in steadily in- propriations required by the War Department for the next fiscal year. The aggregate is \$52,875,638. The estimate for the running expenses of the War Office in Wash-THREE BILLION BUSHELS HAVE over 121,000,000 bushels than from 1882 to ington is \$1,464,236, showing, the Secretary says, a reduction in the annual expenses for salaries and contingencies in that office of \$621,942 from the estimates of four years ago. The other estimates in detail are as follows: Pay of the army, as fixed by the law, \$13,522,880; subsistence of the army, \$1,659,837; quartermasters' supplies, \$2,200,000; incidental expenses of the army, \$600,000; barracks and quarters, including hospital construction, \$835,000; shooting ranges, \$25,-000; cavalry and artillery horses, \$130,000; army transportation, \$2,500,000; clothing, \$1,100,000; medical supplies, \$140,200; ordinance department, \$1,131,000; military academy, \$521,812; arsenals, \$139,796; military posts, national cemeteries and national parks, \$1.558,380; national soldiers' homes, \$3,443,214; artificial limbs for soldiers of the late war, \$191,000; public buildings and ground in Washington, \$139,992; miscellaneous items, \$402,000; rivers and harbors, \$5,349,000. To meet payments on existing contracts, the department at this time is unable to say what sum will be required by future contracts for which authority

The estimate for fortifications and seacoast defense has been increased to \$15.824 .-298, an amount, Secretary Lamont says, which will be required to continue this work at its present rate of progress which has been appreciably advanced under the large appropriation which became available on the 1st of July last. In connection with his estimate the Secretary has made public a statement of the condition of this work, the advance that has been made and resuits that can be effected by the increased appropriation which he asks. On the 1st of July, 1893, but one modern gun had been placed in position. On the 1st of July, 1897, department will have completed defenses with armament as follows: teen twelve-inch, thirty-seven ten-inch, eight eight-inch, and four rapid fire guns,

and eighty twelve-inch mortars.
The remainder of Secretary Lamont's letter transmitting the estimates is of an historical nature, reviewing the progress made in seacoast defense. He says that for the fifteen years preceding 1890 no appropriations had been made for engineering work on our permanent coast defense except the small and steadily decreasing sum annually allowed for the "protection, preservation and repair" of existing works, but small amounts had been granted for the construction of mining casemates and for the purwhile in 1888 and 1889 a total of about \$2,000,-000 had been appropriated for modern guns mortars and carriages. In 1890 was made the first appropriation, \$1,221,000, for modern guns and mortar batteries, followed by one \$750,000 in 1891 and by another of \$500,000 1892. This money was allotted by the department for construction work at various ports, including a total of four twelveinch, twenty ten-inch, five eight-inch two rapid fire gun emplacements, and sixv-four twelve-inch mortar emplacements them, however, could be made ready to receive its armament until after the first small appropriations made in and the two succeeding years. Practically, therefore, it has, the Secretary says, devolved upon the War Department since 1893, to make provision for the completion of nearly all of these emplacements. "it appears," the Secretary says, "that seventeen out of twenty-one twelve-inch emplacements, fifty-five out of sixty-six ten-inch emplacements, twenty out of twenty-five eight-inch emplacements, foureen out of sixteen rapid-fire-gur emplaceplacements and ninety-two out of welve-inch mortar emplacements have been entirely provided for during the last four years, and that during the same time for have been prepared to receive their armament. For this favorable showing much is due to the liberality of Congress at its recent session. The number of em-placements provided by the act of June 6, s just fifty in excess of the total provided by all preceding appropriations. The progress in armament has been equally satisfactory. Figures are given to show that prior to the act of June 6, 1896, there had been completed sixty-one eight-inch, fifty-six ten-inch and twenty-one twelveinch guns and eighty twelve-inch mortars completed, while there were twenty-seven eight-inch, thirty-five ten inch and twen-ty-nine twelve-inch guns in process of construction. The appropriation of June 6, 896, while leaving the above completed toals unchanged, raised the totals in process of construction to twenty-seven eight-inch, fifty-six ten-inch, fifty twelve-inch, ten six-pounder rapid-fire guns and eightysix twelve-inch all steel mortars.

"By the time a new appropriation can become available." says the letter, "all the details will have been fully determined. With sufficient money, therefore, the limit

to future rapidity of progress in coast defense is the combined annual capacity of public and private plants to supply ordnance material."
Upon this fact are based the department's estimates for the ensuing year. These estimates will provide the follow-Guns-One sixteen-inch gun (finishing

and assembling forgings arready provided), twenty-one sets twelve-inch gun forgings, twenty-one sets ten-inch gun forgings, 144 all steel twelve-inch mortars complete, fifty-five six-pounder rapid-firing guns, with mounts and 200 roun and twenty-four five-inch rapid-fire guns, with mounts and 100 rounds per gun Carriages-Twenty-one twelve-inch appearing carriages, twenty ten-inch appearing carriages, eight eight-inch disappearing carriages, and 138 twelve-inch

For Engineering Work-Twenty twelvench emplacements, disappearing; nineteen ten-inch emplacements. disappearing; twelve eight-inch emplacements, disappearing; 113 rapid-fire emplacements and 144 twelve-inch mortar emplacements. Thus, if the present estimates of the War Department for permanent defenses should receive the favorable consideration of Congress, we shall have by June 30, 1898, the ollowing completed items in the systems of defense Emplacements-Thirty-nine twelve-inch, eighty-five ten-inch, thirty-seven eight-

inch, 139 rapid-fire and 284 twelve-inch mor-Guns-One sixteen-inch, sixty twelveinch, ninety-five ten-inch, seventy-five eight-inch (or more if the Bethlehem com-pany exceeds minimum delivery), 129 rapidguns, with mounts and ammunition, and 250 twelve-inch mortars Carriages-Forty-eight twelve-inch, nine-ty-four ten-inch, forty-two eight-inch and

290 twelve-inch mortars. The Bryan Phonograph.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: The "phonograph" is still at it, and some "guy" must have been talking in his ear between some of his numerous appear-...1.073 | ances. This, to the ladies of Minneapolis:

Great principle of what? Of Populism, Number of cases disposed of at October term, 1894 such a man for President of the United fact accompanying it that it can be passed will be one of the d back to its origin and received as a full the defeat of Bryan.

one-hundred-cent dollar or exchanged for standard gold dollar, at par, without pre-mium or discount. That is the kind of financial system the Nation is enjoying now, builded up and perfected by the best brains the world has known. Jefferson, Hamilton, Jackson, Chase, Lincoln, Sherman, Grant, Carlisle and Cieve-Hamilton, land, all conspirators to injure masses and wreck the country giving us an honest money system! And this great conspiracy is discovered, and we are to be saved from its awful confequences by following the teachings of Bry an, Altgeld and Tillman. Another turn of the crank and the phonograph says: "You can make dollars dearer or cheaper by changing the quantity." Now, Mr. Bryan, would it not be a good

dea for you to sidetrack your train for couple of days and read up on the financial question before giving any more deceptive talks to ladies only? "You can make dol lars dearer or cheaper by changing the Q-u-a-l-i-t-y," not by changing the quanity. Don't you remember that since the 'crime of '73," during the twenty years of greatest national growth and prosperity. Uncle Sam has been coining millions and millions of silver dollars, and in '79 e gave them a fixed and unchangeable 30-cent value by adopting the gold standard, and he still goes on coining "quanti-ties" of them—two minions per month— and they still maintain their unchangeable position as a theatrical press agent wit in about two weeks of his nomination. because we have a first-class national credit and are on a sound gold basis. When we adopt your plan, free coinage, then we change the "quality" of the dollar, and we can have a cheap silver dollar, a 53-cent dollar and a gold dollar worth a premium, as we had in the old One more revolution of the crank and the phonograph repeats: "Now, this is a

simple proposition. It is fundamental, and when you have studied it, and when you have understood it, you understand the money question." Clear, isn't it? A mountebank, parading in a financial lion's skin-but his braying gives him away. Surely the oratorical mantle of the immortal J. N. has descended upon William Jennings Bryan. What the second and third great principles of Bryanism, or Populism, or whatever it is 'ism, may be, the phonograph did not say, neither am I acquainted with anyone who seems to know what it is. It is out of order to joke on so serious a matter, or I might compare the situation of the wage earners who shout for Bryan with that of the fabled frogs who were clamorous for a king. It is an appalling crisis in the history of America when the forces seen and unseen which dominated the Chicago convention, can forge to the front and ask to be placed in control of the great Republic. SON OF A VETERAN.

Indianapolis, Oct. 17. QUAY'S FIGURES.

He Leaves the Enemy to Guess Which States Are Doubtful.

New York Mail and Express. There is a certain deft skill in this announcement of Mr. Quay's which excites no little admiration among those who attempt to analyze it. He is at once very definite and provokingly puzzling in his figures. He declares that McKinley and Hobart will have 270 of the 447 votes of the Electoral College; that Bryan will win 110 electoral votes, and that sixty-seven electoral votes from six States are now doubtful, but that "the probabilities all point to the fact that these sixty-seven votes will go into the Re-publican column and be added to the 270 now assured for McKinley and Hobart. Of course, the question at once suggested itself to those who discussed Sena or Quay's announcement as to just what table of electoral votes could be figured out by States to conform to his generalized figures. The statement which Mr. Quay signed does not emanate from himself alone. It was issued to the public only after a long consultation between himself and the other members of the executive committee at Republican headquarters. It embodies the astute judgment of Quay, with the consensus of approval of all his associates, including the agreement of Chairman Hanna over the long-distance telephone. This fact only emphasizes the importance which the value of Mr. Quay's individual judgment, standing ilone, would give to his prediction. which are the McKinley States, which the Bryan States and which the States now doubtful, but to be captured by the Republicans before Nov. 37 These are precisely the questions which

puzzle over. Quay's statement is very characteristic of the man. It is reserved conservative and contains within its very kernel an inside nut to crack. But it is that nut which the Popocrats must crack. Quay won't open it for them. The Beaver statesman said at headquarters this morning: "Oh, no; I won't tell you which are the six doubtful States. You can't guess them, either, if you try. Do you think I am going to tell our friends the enemy the critical points that are left on the battlefield? Not Mr. Manley, who has been closely assoclated with Mr. Quay in former presiden-

tial campaigns, and who shares his inner confidence in this one, was equally reticent. "We have made our table," we will work on that basis for the rest of the campaign. The figures of that predic tion were very carefully discussed before they were given out, and you may rely upon them. Six doubtful States left to you, Mr. Jones. Which are they? They totalize sixty-seven electoral votes. You can select them, probably, out of the following list; Virginia. 12: Florida, 4; Alabama, II; Kentucky, 13; Call-fornia, 9; Nebraska, 8; North Carolina, II; Oregon, 4; South Dakota, 4; Washington, 4; Wyoming, 3; Michigan, 14. There are thir-teen States, Mr. Jones. Seven of them Mr. Quay counts as sure for McKinley and Hoprotection within a fortnight. Which are the six? Guess and guess again.

FUNERAL OF BRYANISM. New York Popocratic Hendquarters Resemble a Morgue.

New York Evening Sun. The Popocratic managers began making final arrangements for the funeral of Bryanism in this State. Chairman Danforth and National Committeeman Campbell summoned the presidents of all the Bryan and Sewall clubs of the State to meet them at the Bartholdi Hotel for conference. The conference was called for the purpose of talking over the situation and deciding what is best to be done, or rather what can be done to make some sort of showing at the funeral. Chairman Danforth and Chairman Truman, of the executive committee, are send-ing out urgent appeals for funds. The men in charge at headquarters say there is a demand from up the State for free-silver literature which they are unable to supply. They have appealed to the national headquarters at Chicago because they have no money with which to pay printing, and the national committee has not been able to supply them. A funeral air already prevails at Popo-cratic headquarters, and it is growing more

pronounced every day. Senator Murphy is taking no part in the campaign, as was expected. Not a word of cheer has come from him When Senator Gorman comes to the city he does not go near the place. In fact, the visit of a Democrat of prominence in State or national politics to the Bartholdi Hotel neadquarters would cause a mild sensation Most of the visitors there are small fry politicians, who come day after day in the hope that a campaign fund has been raised in some way and that they will be able to get something to do. Then there are the sitters, a score of mer who sit in the reception room day after day, from morning until night, talking in low tones, as if the corpse of Bryanism lay in the inner room. The place is always dimly lighted by gas jets, and the low hum of voices added to the general gloom of the place makes the visiting Popocrats shudder.

Government Clerks and Bryan. Washington Special.

The department clerks and other government employes who are protected in their positions by the civil-service law continue dollars dearer or cheaper by changing the quantity. Now, this is a simple proposition. It is fundamental, and when you for Bryan. The Chicago platform, which igainst its candidate those enjoying a fixed tenure of service under the government that he had received a letter from Mr. and an assurance of retention during good Bryan asking for the position. Mr. Block behavior. Mr. Bryan, in his speeches, has made it very clear that he is a strong ad-vocate of the patronage system, and if had never seen the letter, but he knew that elected will use his efforts not only to Mr. Block had it. He was asked whether Government employes throughout the Balance 649
Number of cases filed at October term, 1895 282
Total Number of cases disposed of at October term, 1896 288
Number of cases disposed of at October term, 1896 289
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Number of cases term, 1895 489 or one hundred such dollars, or one thou- of civil-service reform throughout the this standard of value, and every honest all. It can scarcely be doubted that the one-hundred-cent dollar must have the appeal of the Civil-service Reform League

BRYAN WAS AFTER A JOB

HE WANTED TO BE A PRESS AGENT, OR PRESIDENT, OR SOMETHING.

When a Nomination for the Second Post Was Offered to Him He Was Already Seeking the First.

New York Tribune.

The present presidential canvass is without doubt, in some respects, the most remarkable that the country has ever seen. But there have been few things about it more remarkable than the story which came to light yesterday of an application made by William Jennings Bryan, the Popocratic nominee for President, for a position as a theatrical press agent with-

The application, or, rather, the applications, for there were two of them, were made to William J. Block, the manager of the company playing "The Heart of Maryland." He was connected then, as he is now, with the management of the Heraldsquare Theater, in this city, and with the attractions which make that house the starting point for their tours of the coun-

Mr. Bryan and Mr. Block, it appears, were old friends and classmates at the Illinois State College, in Jacksonville. They had not met in a long time, when Mr. Block visited Lincoln, Neb., about a year ago, as manager of "Pudd'nhead Wilson," which was a play emanating from the Herald-square Theater. Mr. Bryan was the correspondent of the Omaha World, and he went to see the play, so that he could write about it for his paper. At the theater he met his old friend Mr. Block, and they renewed their acquaint-

OUGHT TO HAVE BEEN AN ACTOR. Mr. Bryan, in talking with the manager, remarked that he thought he ought to have been an actor. The notion of a theatrical career seems to have clung to him, for about the first of the year he wrote to Mr. Block, asking him whether he could find a position for him as press agent, Mr. Block and his associates seem not to have been in need of an agent at that time, for the letter was neglected. Later Mr. Bryan

States, and few people will be ready to believe that a person who is qualified for that highest of stations would ever need to wrote again to the same effect. This was in June, only a short time before the Chicago convention. Mr. Bryan was at that time a member of a contesting delegation from his State, which was finally seated

by the convention.

Here, then, was Mr. Bryan between two strange alternatives. He had applied for the position of press agent for a traveling theatrical company, and in a short time he was to be nominated, as it proved, for the greatest office in his country or in the world. It has been hinted that the nomintended by those who brought it about from the beginning. In this case was Mr. Bryan attempting to get a position as a press agent, in order that he might have some good employment to fall back upon in case he did not become President of the United States?

THE PROPOSITION ENTERTAINED. At any rate a man, who is in a position to know pretty well what he is talking about said last night that the proposition of employing Mr. Bryan was actually entertained by Mr. Block and his associates, and that he would probably have been so employed if his nomination for President Senator Quay has left open for Bryan's had not taken him out of the field of competitors for the somewhat humbler position under the management of the Heraldsquare Theater.

Every effort was made yesterday to get a positive confirmation or denial of this story, and all inquiries led to the belief that it was true. Mr. Block, to whom the application was directly made, is in Phila-delphia, where "The Heart of Maryland" is now playing at the Broad-street Theater, A dispatch from Philadelphia last night reported that when asked about the story, Mr. Block at first would say nothing, but finally he was persuaded to acknowledge its truth. he said, "it is true that Mr. Bryan applied for a position as press agent for our company in December last. Out of

friendship for him I can say nothing more about it. To all other questions Mr. Block would make no reply, except to say that he was not responsible for the publication of the HOW THE STORY CAME OUT.

The whole story is set forth in this week's number of Leslie's Weekly. Arthur Hornblow, the dramatic editor of that paper, yesterday made the following affidavit: "One day last week Bartlett Arkell, edibart. Six others he and Mr. Hanna pro-pose to make sure for sound money and had heard that William Jennings Bryan, the Democratic candidate for the presidency, had a few months ago addressed a letter to the manager of the Herald-square Theater, applying for the position of press agent. Mr. Arkell asked me to call on the managers of said theater and ascertain if this were true. I did so, and saw W. J. Block, manager of the 'Heart of Maryland' Company, and Mr. Block informed me that it was to him, and not to Mr. Evans, proprietor of the theater, that Mr. Bryan's application for the position referred to was addressed. He further stated that he was school friend of Mr. Bryan's and that the letter had been sent to him last Janu ary. I asked if I might see the letter. Mr. Block said that he did not think that would be fair to Mr. Bryan. I then asked him if he knew where the letter was, Mr. Block said that he had it in his possession.

"The above is a true statement of my interview with Mr. Block. "ARTHUR HORNBLOW,
"Dramatic Editor of Leslie's Weekly,
"Sworn to before me this 16th day of October, 1896. BERTHA L. CLARKE, "Notary Public, N. Y. C., No. 39." Several of Mr. Block's friends and assoclates said yesterday that they had heard the story before and believed it. They as-serted that to the best of their informa-tion and belief Mr. Block had the letter written to him by Mr. Bryan asking for the position of press agent still in his pos-session, but that he would not show it, because he did not think that it would be acting rightly towards Mr. Bryan to do so.

MR. EVANS'S STATEMENT. The proprietor of the Herald-square Theater, Charles E. Evans, yesterday made the following statement in regard to the affair:

"One of my lieutenants informed me some time ago that Mr. Bryan had applied for the office of press agent. We have a press agent at our theater, and also engage such a representative for each of our road companies. When the matter was called to my attention there was no va-cancy, much as I should have liked such a brainy and versatile man as Mr. Bryan on our staff. If Mr. Bryan succeeds to the presidency he will, of course, have no use for the theatrical business as a medium of financial gain. If he does not become President-elect on Nov. 3, that will be a different matter. Mr. Bryan is a brilliant news-paper man, as has been evidenced by his work on the Omaha World-Herald and other publications. Should be not be elected, I can state that he will find me willing to give him a good engagement, at a salary larger than he ever received heretofore in his newspaper career."

Mr. Ziegfeld, the manager of "A Parlor Match," which is now playing at the Herald-square Theater, told a Tribune reporter last night that he had heard Mr. Block say had been been a letter from Mr. had told him and some others of it one night, sitting in a box in the theater. Was it, then, within a short time of the

"Yes," said Mr. Ziegfeld, "it must have been within a short time. 'Was it more than two weeks?"

"Well, not more than three weeks."
Others at the Herald-square Theater had heard all about it, too, and had the same understanding in regard to the letter. which, it appears, Mr. Block was too loyal to his old schoolfellow to show, although

long-distance telephone. He said: "Mr. Block will not say anything about the story now. I do not understand that he denies it, though I have heard that at one time he did deny it. To-day he will simply say nothing. I have spoken with him about it to-day, and he said that he refused to say anything about it, and he refuses now to see newspaper men. I myrefuses now to see newspaper men. I my-self heard of the story some time ago. I understood distinctly that Mr. Bryan had applied for the position of press agent, that his proposition was under favorable consideration at the time of his nomina-tion for President, that his nomination was the only thing that prevented his being employed, and that I owe my own position to the fact that he was nominated for President of the United States and could not take it. In justice to Mr. Block I ought to say that it was not from him that I heard the story. I do not remember from whom I heard it, but I think it was from Max Blieman, the proprietor of "The Heart of Maryland"

Heart of Maryland. Heart of Maryland."

It is a curious coincidence that the position left open by the nomination of Bryan for President should go to a man who bears the name of the vice presidential candidate on the other side.

The people of the Herald-square Theater experienced a new sensation yesterday in suddenly finding themselves of political importance. They did not quite know what was the efiguette of the occasion but they

was the etiquette of the occasion, but they said that they wanted to do anything that could help the cause of the Republican candidates. Mr. Block had acted in the only way that he could act toward an old schoolfellow in refusing to give up the let-ter after he had inadvertently let slip the knowledge that there was such a letter. But Mr. Block himself, his friends hastened to say, was going to vote for McKinley.

THE THEATRICAL ABOUT BRYAN.

This is not the first that was ever heard

of the theatrical tendencies of Mr. Bryan. If there was ever anything theatrical in the world it was his nomination. If there was ever a dismal attempt to be theatrical it was his notion of beginning the campaign with an acceptance of his nomination in the midst of what he was pleased to call "the enemy's country." Some pictures have been freely circulated lately of three smirking faces. They are faces that show the low comedian in every line of them. They are reproductions of three snap-shot photographs of Mr. Bryan. Everybody has seen them. His remark to Mr. Block that he ought to have been an actor snap-shot photographs of Mr. Bryan. was a wonderful flash of intelligence. He really ought. This is an important point of this story of the attempt to be a press agent. It is of a piece with everything else about Mr. Bryan. There is no disgrace in being press agent, of course, or in any other honorable work that any one choose to do for the support of himself and his family. But most press agents, to judge from the specimens that constantly con-front the New York newspaper man, are not persons who are qualified to cut a bril-liant figure as President of the United seek employment at the press-agent trade. The fact that a man has tried his hand at politics and law and newspaper work, and had been so marked a failure at them than he wished to change them all for the busi

newished to change them all for the business of advertising a play will go far in many minds to prove that the man is not qualified to guide a great nation.

There were persons, naturally, who in discussing this strange story yesterday tried to be facetious. But it is too easy. The comic possibilities of the situation are too obvious to need pointing out. When great wits get to work on the theme they ination of Mr. Bryan was not so much of may develop something really sharp and an accident as it appeared—that it was fine and keen, but nobody can help being a joker in an humble way in the presence n a theme, and when the serious side of it has received consideration the comic one will thrust itself upon everybody.

DON QUIXOTE DE LA PLATTE.

McE., in Chicago Post. Now it chanced that on the evening of the second day of the eleventh month in

that year wherein he had encountered his most lively adventures Don Quixote de la Platte drew rein at the edge of a vast plain. He had ridden somewhat in advance of his following-a motley gathering that had become attached to his cause, partly from lack of other employment, but chiefly through hope that they would acquire some advantage out of the enterprise. Close on his stirrup rode his faithful 'squire, Sancho Tom-Tom; for, though the dolorous knight had grown to look with much disdain upon his henchman, yet did Sancho stand by him, for, said he: "An' Don Quixote de la Platte cast me from him I shall be most absolutely alone-an' then, that postoffice! Down, false pride! It wants but twentyfour puny hours of servitude to decide which is the greater fool, the don, who hath all to lose, or his esquire, who hath not aimed so high but that he may go back shown warm favor to another, to whom he had promised to place close to his heart when he should reap the fruits of his present adventure, Sancho Tom-Tom still clung with steadfastness to his wavering for-

As night's sable mantle fell close about him, Don Quixote sat like as one cut from stone, gazing across the shrouded expanse and trying to bring from out the rising vapors some augur of the morrow. He still bestrode his favorite steed-Argentina, out of Chimera by Anarchy-though it was worn to little better than half its former proportions, for Don Quixote was a lively if not a judicious horseman. The voices of the night spake no encouraging word to the anxious questioner, and, heaving a prodigious sigh, he swung him from the saddle, and, using Sancho's paunch as a pillow, he courted sleep in this wise:

"And now do I venture all on the single cast of a die. By this hour of the morrow shall I be either the greatest personage in all this broad land or a something for fools to jeer and dogs to bark at. I have held my meager following to my fortunes by promising what has never yet been known to man, and if I fail in to-morrow's most stern encounter those who have endangered their vertebrae in service salaams to my most gracious presence will have scant modesty in making of me a Plebian door-mat. Ah, I fear me for the morrow! True, I carried off a giorious victory in my en-counter with the windmills, but I must not forget that for such warfare nature both blessed me with peculiar qualities. Ah, Sancho, Sancho; could I but sleep like thee Could I but forget for the moment, in ob-livion like to thine, that I am this night the least cock-sure of any wight in the land who sprains his larynx howling 'Huzza for Don Quixote de la Platte, friend of the people!' I should with gladness forago certain conquest and go back to my parchments and statutes-in faith. I think they could yet give me some slight knowledge." The rythmic rise and fall of Sancho's doublet soon lulled the doubt-tortured knight, and Don Quixcte de la Platte, the man who was about to tilt for the highest place of honor in all that country, stept.

Betimes next morning Sancho had occaion to turn for what he termed his "waking sleep," and as he thus removed good Don Quixote's pillow the head freighted with a nation's welfare came in unkind contact with the ground, and the sudden waking broke in on a pleasing dream in which the Don saw himself reposing on a golden cross with a circlet of silver tooth. picks about his brow. As the dream was not finished, he placed his spurred boot with much energy against Sancho's mether person and recked not in what spot his esquire should next touch earth. Don Quixote reflected that this incident was an inauspicious beginning to a day so marked by fate. It wanted yet some time to 6 of the dial, at which hour the oracle had as-sured the puissant knight he should come within sight of his most dreadsome antagonist and against whose overthrow he would have cause to bring all his valor and and and ardurance. A short space before the fated hour the plain was still barren of any noteworthy object, but as the sun's shadow touched the mark Don Quixote viewed in the far center of the expanse a mighty fortress. With haste which spake his eagerness he mounted Argentina, and, shading his eyes from the sun, he gazed long and carne tly upon the object which, with all its beauty of streigth and mightiness, seemed to have sprung full grown from the soil while one might briefly let fall an eyelid. "The hour longed for, yet mightily dreaded, has come at last!" So exclaimed Don Guix-ote. Then, turning to his steeping company, he delivered himself thus: "Gentlemen, the time is now come when I am to put to the test all your promises of fealty to myself and the noble cause of which I am the most earnest champion. Before us lies the enemy's stronghold. If victory should this day deign to bless our arms none of us shall ever more know

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to humbler walks without breaking his proud spirit." So, although the knight had shown warm favor to another, to whom he

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thing I have assured you."
"An' it please my lord," quoth Sancho,
"I gaze in vain for any vast fortress; but I do see a small wooden box set in the midst of the plain. Say but the word and your faithful Sancho will bring it to my ord under one arm an'-" "Peace, thou driveling idiot; peace, spake Don Quixote in great wrath, making thou driveling idiot; though he would transfix Sancho with slance. "I teil thee it is a mighty stronghis lance. hold an' if we fail to capture it our fortunes are indeed undone, Look yonder, my faithful followers! See you not thousands of knights in whitest armor pouring through the opened portcullis? Why wait we here prating like fearsome scholastics when each slightest mark of time doubles the ventures 'gainst our success? See see how the white plumed knights gather like mighty snowflakes! How they crowd the drawbridge! How they swarm the battlements! I fear me we are e'en at this early hour too late. To horse, to horse! One mighty charge and the day is ours." Waiting not to mark the effect of his words, Don Quixote set spurs deep into the jaded Argentina's side and, placing his lance in rest, set forward to the fortress with as brave a speed as he could muster. And all the while Sancho Tom-Tom raut-tered: "Fortress; white-plumed knights. forsooth! An' now am I persuaded of the madness of Don Quixote de la Platte, for

after all his fine phrasing he brings up with much ado against a small wooden box and a cloud of paper pellets. White-armored knights, indeed!"
Nothing could well exceed the fierceness of Don Quixote's charge. With a fury born of an almost dead hope, blending with live-ly memories of the carnage he had wrought when windmills were his foes, he bowed him low over the neck of Argentina and offered a deep supplication to Diana to bless his arms that day. He saw the fortress loom greater as he neared it. He watched the ever-increasing company of white-armored knights; yet his stout spirit failed him not. Straight at the entrance to the fortress he spurred his steed. Straight to the hearts of the white-plumed knights did he direct his lance. Then came a mighty crash and all was still.

Sancho Tom-Tom pillowed Don Quixote's aching head the following morning. None other of those who had loudly cheered him stood near. He gazed across the plain as though he sought something. The fortress was nowhere in sight. The white knights were vanished. "Pritnee, good Sancho. exclusimed Don Quixote de la Platte with faintness, "surely I did but dream?"
"Even so, my lord. Thou hast dreamed, lo these many weeks. This day we return to Toboso and to thy Dulcines. much need to rest. So get thee upon they pegs, for thy steed Argentina is dead."

Presidential Pleasantry.

Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph. "Henry! "Yes, your Excellency?"
"It is said that Tom Watson is confined to his room with a sore throat." Yes, your Excellency

"I suppose, Henry, that our dear friend, Dave Hill, is confined to Wolfert's Roost with a sore head." Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup Has been used over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children while teething, with perfect success. It soother the child, softens the gums, allays pain, cures wind colic, regulates the bowels, and is the best remedy for diarrhea, whether arising from teething or other causes. For sale by druggists in every part of the world. Be sure and ask for Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, 25 cents a bottle.

to his old schoolfellow to show, although he had been so unguarded as to let the facts of the case escape him.

THE MAN WHO HAS THE JOB.

Hobart Brooks, the present press agent of "The Heart of Maryland," the holder of the place for which Mr. Bryan applied, who is in Philadelphia with the play, talked with the Tribune office last night over the with the Tribune office last night over the shall likewise be doubled. Cast your eyes

arms none of us shall ever more know want. The man among you who is this moment beholden to a fellow for 100 measures of giver, who had used to more harassing than an affection of the skin? These troubles, as well as distinguishments of the complexion, are cured that anything hurts worse than ures of gold may to-morrow discharge the you know is but half the amount. He who have no measures of giver, who had not have no measures to-morrow, and he that has nothing to-day shall have no measures to-morrow, and he that has nothing to-day shall follow the beneficient workings of my law, for his fortune shall likewise be doubled. Cast your eyes brown 50 cents.